

## INDEPENDENT STUDIES

### DATES:

- Nov. 8—Picture retakes
- Nov. 8—7:00 p.m. Final Four Soccer
- Nov. 9—Explore test—8th graders
- Nov. 9—3:15—7-12th gr. IS parent meeting—Rm. 109
- Nov. 11—10:00 a.m. Mans. Police/911 Center
- Nov. 14—9th grade parent meeting
- Nov. 18—MCS IS K-8 classes; vision & hearing screening
- Nov. 21—Ren. Good Night Moon—12:30 p.m.
- Nov. 22—27 No School Happy Thanksgiving
- Nov. 30—A Christmas Carol—Ren.—12:30 p.m.
- Dec. 4—MCS IS K-8 classes
- Dec. 7—2-4 p.m. dress rehearsal
- Dec. 8 5-7 p.m. dress rehearsal
- Dec. 9—9:30-11:30 a.m. Salvation Army
- Dec. 9—7:00 p.m. IS Christmas program
- Dec. 16—MCS IS K-8 classes
- Jan. 13—Bats at Gorman Nature Center
- Feb. 10—Mansfield Fire Museum

- Check your email every day for messages pertaining to Independent Studies. That is your main avenue to get information about field trips, schedules, and much more.



# Home Sweet Home

*"... Choose you this day whom you will serve. . . as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*

NOVEMBER 2011

## BE THANKFUL—HAPPY THANKSGIVING

I encourage all of you to take the time to make lasting memories with your families. This is my favorite time of the year when the puzzles come out of the closet, nuts to be cracked appear around the house, candles burn, and more games than usual are played together. On Thanksgiving Day, my brothers and their families gather with ours at my Mom's farm for a wonderful meal and good fellowship. The men gather early in the morning and go rabbit hunting. The girls are in charge of decorating the Thanksgiving table, preparing songs to sing, etc. Our favorite table decoration is always the turkey made out of an apple, raisins, marshmallows, etc. to be eaten for dessert as the meal comes to a close. Even last year, with the youngest grandchild at 25 years old, we still made turkeys and had a contest. What fun! Memories our kids will never

forget!

It is my prayer that we would not just be thankful at this season, but every day of the year. We should daily express praise and adoration to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords that is also our personal Father and friend.

Read the entire Psalm 100 - a true Psalm of Thanksgiving. Train your children to have thankful hearts.

*"Be thankful to Him and bless His name." Psalm 100:4*

*"In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thess. 5:18*

*"It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High."*

*Psalm 92:1*

### HAVE A WONDERFUL BLESSED

### THANKSGIVING!

It is my prayer that we would not just be thankful at this season, but every day of the year. We should daily express praise and adoration to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords that is also our personal Father and friend.



## Important Reminders

For updates on activities specific to our program, check out the calendar at [www.mcsflames.org](http://www.mcsflames.org).

Emails pertaining specifically to home schooling and the IS program are sent regularly - **check your email every day.**

Daily **high school announcements** will be emailed to you.

Again this year, IS students will be included in the **elementary and high school year books.**

Please keep that in mind when attending sporting events, field trips, etc. You can submit pictures via CD or email attachment.

### Retakes for School pictures:

Tuesday, November 8 in the morning. If you have any questions about retakes, please call the elementary office.

The **used clothing room is**

**being moved this month to MCS** and will be located in the lower high school hallway where the previous IS office was located. If you are in need of Campus Wear, please call Maria Emigh in the central office and she will pass your information on. Do NOT call Mrs. Myers

Nov. 18—Last book orders from **Scholastic** before Christmas.

## INCREASED BUILDING SECURITY

In an attempt to better keep our property and students safe, after 8:15 in the morning when most students have arrived, we are locking all elementary doors except door 16 at the PreK entrance. If you come during the school day, you are asked to sign in at Door 16 and receive a visitor badge. Students have been told not to open any door to an adult. I apologize for any

inconvenience, but do believe that all of our sacrifices are well worth it. Thank you for your cooperation.

Door 3 at the front high school end is also unlocked during the school day. On days when we have K-8 IS classes, door 8 at the back by the Resource Room will also be unlocked.



*Parenting is at  
the heart of  
homeschooling*

## Field Trips arranged for IS Families

**November 11 Mansfield Police Dept.** at 10 a.m. and free followed by **Splash Harbor from 12-4 for \$7 per person.**

There are also **2 Children's Theater productions** in November. **Nov. 21** is "Goodnight Moon/Runaway Bunny" geared for Preschool-grade3. **November 30** is "A Christmas Carol" geared for grades 3-6. \$3.50 per person. Both are 12:30 pm at the Renaissance Theater.

**Salvation Army—Friday, December 9 from 9:30—11:30.** Since that is the day of our IS Christmas Program, we will not be having a pizza party this year. We will be doing chores all over the building to be a blessing that day. They count on us every year since we have quite a reputation as being respectful hard workers. Let's keep that reputation going. Bring non-perishable food items and hygiene items with you on the 9th to donate to the Salva-

tion Army. There is great need this year.

**Bats with Mr. Tawse at Gorman Nature Center—Friday, January 13 at 9:30 a.m.—Free!**

**Mansfield Fire Museum located at 1265 W. Fourth Street—Friday, February 10 at 10:00 a.m.** They offer a wonderful one hour tour of the building that includes a turn of the century street in Mansfield and the fire department, and a number of old fire trucks. They also show a video on fire safety. Then they take the kids to a "safety house" that has artificial smoke fill the room and they have to follow their safety techniques out of the house. Each child receives a certificate for learning fire safety at the end of the tour. All FREE!

Email Marie at [baumann.marie@mcsflames.org](mailto:baumann.marie@mcsflames.org) about field trip sign up and questions.

## Vision & Hearing

### Screening for Grades

K,1,3,5,7,9,& any students new to MCS will be held November 18 during K-8 classes. 9th grade students can come in that Friday as well between 9 and 10 a.m. or when they come for classes, but no later than 1:00. p.m.



### OFFICE 2010 PRO PLUS SPECIAL AVAILABLE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

You can now purchase personal license for the full suite of Office 2010 Pro Plus or Office for Mac 2011 from Paragon Micro/EDU and Microsoft! This is a great deal!

#### To order go to:

[www.paragonmicro.net/acsi promo](http://www.paragonmicro.net/acsi promo)

[www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com).

Check it out!

### Operation Christmas Child

The deadline to turn them back in is the week of November 14, so we would have to have boxes back no later than the next class, November 18. Marie Baumann will be taking them to Ontario that day. I encourage you to participate. This is a great way to teach that "it really is better to give than to receive."



# Specifically High School (grades 7-12)



**Class dues** are charged for every high school student beginning the 9th grade year. **The first \$25 for the year is due now.** Keep in mind that dues can be worked off by participating in class activities or can be paid for using scrip.

**Grades** will be printed soon and I will let you know by email when they're ready to be picked up or mailed. I'm sorry for the delay, but have been so busy they were not entered on time. I apologize. Any grades from MCS can be found on the STI system.

**9th graders** are currently working on a Longaberger fundraiser. Let me know if any 9th graders need this information. It was put in your folders.

This is a great way to work off dues. Each student that sells \$125 receives \$50 off their dues.

**Nov. 9—7-12 IS parent meeting:** Room 109 at MCS at 3:30 p.m. (elementary parents are also invited to attend this meeting). Our speaker will be Stephanie Kisler. She is a veteran homeschooler and will be speaking on how to write special letters to your children to encourage them. This includes letters on birthdays, Christmas, Valentine's day, or whenever God leads you. Her seminar is based on a book "Beautiful Words". This is a one hour seminar with notes. Please email us if you plan to come. This is a very practical seminar, based on Heb. 10:24. You

won't want to miss this one.

Sam's Club has **Total Immersion Language Programs for \$30.** You might want to check that out.

Required 9th grade Parent meeting—fulltime & IS parents—7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room with Mr. Terry Campbell.

**Great website to help your students study spelling words or vocabulary:** [www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com). **Check it out!**

*Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love & good deeds.*



*Hebrews 10:24*



CONGRATULATIONS TO CAROL HEININGER FOR READING THE ENTIRE NEW TESTAMENT. WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU. THERE IS NOTHING MORE BENEFICIAL TO ANY OF US THAN TO HIDE GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEARTS.

**K-8 Classes at MCS update:**

Thank you all for your cooperation and words of encouragement as we've moved our classes to MCS. I am so pleased at the transition and all of you have been wonderful as always. It is good to be back in the building with all

of us together with MCS again. The staff here has been very impressed with your kids' behavior. In fact, one young man thanked Mrs. Wade in the kitchen for letting IS work making subs there. She was so impressed with his politeness. Thanks Sam Dixon. We do have great kids!

When pulling up to drop off or pick up kids, make sure you stand outside your vehicle until I learn what each of you drive. Also pull as far up around the semi circle as you can. From now on, we will release all kids in the same family at the same time. I apologize for the confusion last week. We're all

still learning.

Make sure kids always wear coats, hats and gloves when cold; we will be going outside much more than we did at Ranchwood. One 3rd grade MCS student said, "I'm so happy the homeschoolers are here. We'll get to make new friends." Loved that attitude.

I'd love to hear from you about the Resource room. Do we need to send information out of your folders with your students as they leave or do you want the folders to stay in the Resource Room? Please let me know your thoughts.

## Merry Christmas—December 9 program at Grace Fellowship

**IS Christmas Program**

Friday, Dec. 9 at Grace Fellowship Church at 7:00 p.m. Dress rehearsals will be Dec. 7 from 2-4 p.m. and Dec. 8 from 5-7 p.m. The play is set in a city mission. Mrs. B is creating the play herself; there will be choir type songs as well as some solos. This year's stage will require extra help in designing and building since it will be a city landscape. Props and other creative items will be needed. Hopefully, last Friday every family got a CD to

practice the songs. As part of the play we will collect can goods and non perishables for a food pantry here in Mansfield. If you have any questions, call Lori at 419-564-5734.

Required dress:

6-7th working with Mrs. B—wear black pants & back tee shirt; 4-5th wear black pants & a white tee shirt; 2nd-3rd wear black pants & a red tee shirt; Kdt.—1st wear black pants & a green tee shirt.

We need the following: plenty of

parents to help during practices & the night of the performance. We also need 2 large silver garbage cans with lids, 2 big plastic garbage cans with lids, a Christmas wreath, & Nativity costumes for K-1. Please let Mrs. B know if you can help with any of these and bring them to the first rehearsal at grace fellowship. Thank you so much; please pray for our performances.



## Sub Sale—Going Great!

Our IS program will be selling subs this year to raise money for Heartland Outdoor and for MCS. You choose where your funds will go. Our IS students are making their subs the first Friday of each month to send home with you that day. Subs can also be ordered for the K-6 students to eat at lunch during classes the first Friday of each month. Students are responsible for delivery of the subs they order and the money is due when ordering. Condiments and chips and drinks will also be available for purchase.

We are selling ham/cheese, turkey/cheese, and combo (pastrami with ham and turkey). The subs are 6

inches long; checks can be made out to MCS. You can also choose white or wheat buns. We are hoping to clear \$1.50 to \$2.00 per sub so this could be a great fundraiser. If each family sold 10 subs that would be almost \$750 raised. We are looking for other ways to market the subs the 1st weekend of each month, so if you know of sporting events or other ideas, let JoAnn Walthour know. From the first orders, we cleared \$360. Great job!

We will be accepting orders the 2nd IS class of the month and delivering them the first class of each month. This will continue throughout the school year. The junior high IS stu-

dents are heading this up as part of their time serving at RW.

Again, we would appreciate your support. You don't have to have students at RW to participate; HS students are also encouraged to order.

## ACSI Events

Sometime in December before break each 1st—6th grade student will receive information on the Speech Meet. All students are required to participate at least at this level. You'll be hearing more about this from your coordinator.

*In the face of foxes,  
God calls a man to  
have the heart of a  
lion; we must be  
resolute & stand  
firm in our  
convictions*



## The Battle for Homeschool Freedom: It's Not over Yet

Before I write from Mr. Farris's article, I must say that when we first began homeschooling in the early 80's it was illegal to do so and many families were having their children taken away from them. I hope we never forget the sacrifices that have been made for you to homeschool so freely today.

"In the early days, the establishment had two things to say about homeschooling: 1 Parents were unqualified and 2 Children would not be properly socialized if homeschooled. Both of those assertions have been proven wrong over time.

No one believes that such arguments will ever prevail again in our lifetimes. The reason this is true is that the general public has become convinced that homeschooling works well both academically and socially.

This public acceptance has been won at a considerable price and homeschoolers need to protect that reputation. Our message should be: Yes, it does require

sacrifice, but at the end of the day the rewards far outweigh the sacrifice.

Just as society has grown accustomed to the legitimacy of homeschooling, the academic elites have decided to take direct aim at our movement.

A growing number of scholars and professors are alarmed at the growth of the Christian homeschooling movement. These academic elites want to crush the Christian homeschooling movement.

They believe that we are intolerant. In what way? They correctly understand that Christian homeschoolers teach our children that Jesus meant what He said when He proclaimed, "I am the way the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." The flip side of the truth is that all other religions are false.

Some have gone so far as to suggest banning of all private education so that coercive lessons of inclusion and diversity be taught

in the lockstep uniformity of public schools.

We dare not think that the battle for our liberty has been won. The other side is gearing up for the fight of a generation. We need to meet them prepared and willing to once again use our rights as citizens to preserve our God-given roles as parents. "

Michael Farris

(Michael has argued more homeschooling cases in state and federal courts than any other person in history. He is the founder and chairman of Home School Legal Defense Association. Mike and Vickie Farris have homeschooled their 10 children since 1982 and now have 12 grandchildren all of whom are being homeschooled.) Quite a testimony to God's faithfulness!

Keep up the good work you're doing homeschooling your children, but never take that privilege for granted. Pray that our nation would remain free and return to our Judeo Christian roots.



# Testing Schedules

## Testing this year:

Grades 1-2—Stanford Test

Grade 3 & 4—OAA math & reading

Grade 5—OAA math, reading & science

Grade 6—OAA math & reading

Grade 7—OAA math & reading

Grade 8—OAA math, reading & science & Explore Test

Grade 10—OGT test

2011—**Ohio Graduation Test** (OGT) will be given in the spring to all 10th grade students and any 11-12th grade students that still have to pass a section. Students have 2 1/2 hrs. for each section.

**Remember to study at [ogt.success-ode-state-oh-us.info](http://ogt.success-ode-state-oh-us.info). I also have study books available if you need them. Let me know.**

## GOD IS FAITHFUL! UPDATE ON MCS

Since you have faithfully prayed for Mansfield Christian School I wanted to first of all thank you for praying especially for the large balloon payment of \$600,000 that was due November 1. Almost 80 days ago we still needed over \$400,000 yet to make that payment.

Dr. Smith and some of the board members yesterday met with the bank and handed them a check for \$300,000 and a signed contract for the sale of Ranchwood School. The closing on the sale of that building is currently scheduled for November 15. That will more than complete the \$600,000 payment. Isn't God good!!

October 31 we held a staff prayer meeting to again thank the Lord for all He's doing among us

and to again petition Him for the funds we need. That very day we received a \$25,000 check. Just after that prayer meeting, the pictures below were taken. What a blessing to all of us.—a sign of promise from our mighty, loving, wonderful Heavenly Father—just a little sign to say, "I am in control."



**"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen."**

**Ephesians 3:20-21**

## Salvation Army—Chance to Serve

**Friday, December 9 from 9:30—11:30 a.m. all IS students and families are invited to meet at the Salvation Army** for our annual Service Project. Over the years, the Salvation Army has come to rely on us to clean, count money, organize foot products, check expiration dates, fill Christmas order, etc. If you're

ever participated before, you know this is a busy couple of hours with everyone assigned a specific task to complete.

Come dressed ready to work; I encourage you to wear warm clothing because it does get cold in the warehouse where some will be.

Instead of staying for a pizza party

as in year's past, we will plan to leave by 11:30 since our IS Christmas production is that evening at Grace Fellowship. This might be a good opportunity to go to Pizza Hut and use those coupons for those of you participating this year.



*Guard your blossoms, protect them, and in time they will produce a pleasing crop*



Phone: 419-756-5651 x. 219(MCS IS)  
 Fax: 419-756-7470  
 500 Logan Road  
 Mansfield, Ohio 44907  
 E-mail: [hoeflich.linda@mcsflames.org](mailto:hoeflich.linda@mcsflames.org)

Linda Hoeflich Principal

*"Choose you this day whom you will serve  
 but as for me and my house,  
 we will serve the Lord."*

## Independent Studies Staff

Charlotte Higgins	Coordinator & RW tchr. 419-526-6909 <a href="mailto:CharlieZimmer52@aol.com">CharlieZimmer52@aol.com</a>
JoAnn Walthour	Coordinator & After School Admin. 419-989-6963 <a href="mailto:jjwalthour@yahoo.com">jjwalthour@yahoo.com</a>
Marie Baumann	Office Assistant— 419-886-4033 <a href="mailto:x4baum@embarqmail.com">x4baum@embarqmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Baumann.marie@mcsflames.org">Baumann.marie@mcsflames.org</a>
Dan Bourcier	IS K-6 PE tchr.—419-564-5403 <a href="mailto:dalojojosu@yahoo.com">dalojojosu@yahoo.com</a>
Robin Rothaar	IS K-6 RW tchr.—419-529-5789 <a href="mailto:Rocknrobinr@gmail.com">Rocknrobinr@gmail.com</a>
Lori Bourcier	IS K-6 Music tchr.-419-564-5734 <a href="mailto:lordanbo84@yahoo.com">lordanbo84@yahoo.com</a>

## Box Tops

### Next Deadline is February 4!

Ford company is helping parents earn box tops for their school. Recently, one of our elementary parents earned 25 extra box tops just for watching a short video. Go to <http://www.forddrivesboxtops.com> for more information. I encourage you to bring in your box tops to help MCS this year. Mrs. Stephan is giving out prizes to those that bring in the most.

We recently sent in a total of 11,908 box tops at MCS. Congratulations. Our top provider was Ian Ernsberger in 6th grade who brought in 940. Way to go! Do you think an IS student could beat that?

The next deadline is February 4 so start collecting now! Thank you.



## Musical Opportunities

**We are blessed to have Mrs. Tamira Barnes teach piano right here in the MCS elementary. This is for your convenience.**

**Cost is \$50/month, which is \$12.50/less. Lessons are a half hour once each week.**

**If you're interested, call Tamira at 419-631-6828**

**Piano Recital—Mrs. Tamira Barnes & students**

December 6 at 6:00 p.m. at First Church of God on Park Avenue West in Mansfield